

CHRISTINE O. GREGOIRE  
Governor



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

P.O. Box 40002 • Olympia, Washington 98504-0002 • (360) 753-6780 • [www.governor.wa.gov](http://www.governor.wa.gov)

June 2, 2006

The Honorable Michael Chertoff, Secretary  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Secretary Chertoff:

I write to you with strong concern about the direction of homeland security funding for Washington State and the Seattle urban area. In 2004, Washington received a total of \$60.4 million in homeland security grants (including State Homeland Security Program Grants, Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program Grants, Citizen Corps, Metropolitan Medical Response Grants, and Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Grants). That dropped to \$41.8 million in 2005, and then dropped again to \$32.2 million for this year.

Our state continues to face major threats from our enemies abroad. It was only a few months ago that the Justice Department declared the Puget Sound ferry system the most likely target of maritime terrorism in the country. Washington is the heart of the country's aerospace industry, a border state that apprehended a terrorist trying to enter our country, and a state with ports that see over 1.8 million cargo containers every year. This is no time to hamstring Washington's and every other state's ability to protect our citizens.

Homeland security funding from the federal government is spiraling downward at an unacceptable pace. It forces state and local governments to shoulder more and more of the financial burdens of protecting our homeland. The reductions give us no confidence that this Administration is fully committed to our security.

Washington will continue to strategically invest its resources to protect its citizens in the best way possible. I ask that you work to reprioritize funding for these important programs so that we can work in partnership to protect the people of our United States.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chris Gregoire".

Christine O. Gregoire  
Governor

